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031639Z OCT 75 ZYH
FM GENEVA (SALT)

*SALT - Sensitive -
US - Soviet*

TO THE WHITE HOUSE (GENERAL SCOWCROFT)

S E C R E T 031639Z OCT 75

State Dept. review
completed

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FM: ALEXIS JOHNSON - GENEVA (SALT) 001
TO: GENERAL SCOWCROFT - THE WHITE HOUSE
SUBJECT: SALT - JOT ARTICLE II
DELIVER DURING WORKING HOURS
DEAR BRENT:

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS
APPLY

1. AS YOU KNOW, I AM TRYING VERY HARD TO GET ALL OF THE MANY DUCKS IN A ROW FOR TABLING AT OUR PLENARY ON WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 8, A REVISED ARTICLE II ON DEFINITIONS. IN DOING SO, I PLAN TO MAKE BRIEF REMARKS ON EACH OF THE PARAGRAPHS, AND IT SEEMS TO ME THAT IT WOULD BE CONSPICUOUS AND POSSIBLY SUBJECT TO SOME MISUNDERSTANDING IF I DID NOT SAY SOMETHING CONCERNING THE "ONCE A MIRV ALWAYS A MIRV" AND THE HEAVY MISSILE DEFINITIONS, WHICH, OF COURSE, WILL BE INCLUDED IN OUR DRAFT IN THEIR PRESENT FORM. THEREFORE, UNLESS IT IS FELT THAT THIS WOULD THROW A SPANNER INTO WHERE THINGS NOW STAND BACK THERE, I WOULD PROPOSE TO SAY THE FOLLOWING ON THE MIRV DEFINITION: QUOTE ADDRESSING THE DEFINITION OF A MISSILE EQUIPPED WITH A MIRV SYSTEM, WE BELIEVE THAT THE CONCEPT UPON WHICH THIS DEFINITION IS BASED IS AN ESSENTIAL ELEMENT OF THE AGREEMENT NOW BEING WORKED OUT. AS WE BOTH AGREE, THE LIMITATIONS OF THE NEW AGREEMENT MUST BE VERIFIABLE BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS. THE DEFINITION OF A MISSILE EQUIPPED WITH A MIRV SYSTEM SHOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH THIS PRINCIPLE. THE DEFINITION PROPOSED BY THE US IN PARAGRAPH 6 OF ARTICLE II RESOLVES THE QUESTION OF WHETHER A GIVEN MISSILE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS MIRV OR NOT. [THIS DEFINITION IS NECESSARY IN ORDER TO ARRIVE AT AN UNAMBIGUOUS AGREEMENT CONCERNING WHICH TYPES OF LAUNCHERS SHOULD BE INCLUDED IN THE 1320 AGGREGATE.] UNQUOTE

2. ON THE HEAVY MISSILE DEFINITION, I WOULD PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING: QUOTE WITH RESPECT TO PARAGRAPH 7 OF ARTICLE II, THE SIDES HAVE AGREED IN PARAGRAPH 3 OF ARTICLE IV OF THE JOT THAT THERE WILL BE A LIMITATION ON HEAVY ICBMS. TO GIVE EFFECT TO THIS LIMITATION, IT IS ESSENTIAL TO INCLUDE IN THE NEW AGREEMENT A MEANINGFUL DEFINITION OF A HEAVY ICBM. SUCH A DEFINITION MUST EMBODY CLEAR CRITERIA UPON WHICH TO BASE LIMITATIONS ON THE DESTRUCTIVE POTENTIAL OF AN ICBM. MISSILE THROW-WEIGHT IS

***** W H S R C O M M E N T *****

HAK, SCOWCROFT, MCFARLANE, RODMAN, BOVERIE

MORI/CDF
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THE SINGLE CHARACTERISTIC WHICH BEST MEASURES THIS DESTRUCTIVE POTENTIAL OF A MISSILE. ACCORDINGLY, THE US CONSIDERS A CLEAR AND PRECISE DEFINITION OF A HEAVY ICBM WHICH INCLUDES THROW-WEIGHT TO BE AN ESSENTIAL PART OF THE NEW AGREEMENT. UNQUOTE

3. I HAVE TRIED TO MAKE THESE NON-POLEMICAL AND STRAIGHTFORWARD IN A FORM WHICH I FEEL WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE ON THE RECORD HERE AT SUCH TIME EITHER OF THE TWO ISSUES MAY BE REMANDED BACK TO GENEVA.

4. ANY HELP THAT YOU CAN GIVE JAN LODAL AND HIS PEOPLE IN CLEARING AWAY WITH THE CHIEFS THE PROBLEMS THEY SEEM TO BE HAVING IN GOING ALONG WITH TRYING TO MOVE FORWARD ON THE DEFINITIONS ARTICLE WILL BE MUCH APPRECIATED.

5. KIND REGARDS.

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